

Salt Lake Field Office
Bureau of Land Management
2370 S. 2300 W.
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119
(801) 977.4300

For Immediate Release: September 26, 2006 Contact: ERIN DARBOVEN, 801.977.4328

PRESCRIBED FIRE PLANNED FOR BOX ELDER COUNTY NEAR ROSETTE, UTAH

Fire officials of the Salt Lake Field Office, BLM, are preparing to light a prescribed fire, in northwestern Box Elder County, approximately 4.5 miles south of the town of Rosette. The 248-acre prescribed fire is aimed at reducing the thick sagebrush and greasewood, in order to protect neighboring residents and property. If weather permits, fire crews will complete the prescribed fire within the next week. The actual fire operation is expected to take only one day. Monitoring of the fire's success will begin immediately and continue for several years.

When asked about expectations for the Rosette Prescribed fire, Dan Washington, Wildland Urban Interface Coordinator for the Salt Lake Field Office commented, "Our expectations are high, we have completed similar projects in the last few years and have seen the grasses come alive where older sagebrush once dominated." Additional benefits from the fire include improved wildlife habitat while improving watershed health by stimulating new growth.

The Salt Lake Field Office has also been working local citizens and fire departments to develop community wildfire plans in northwestern Box Elder County. Ultimately, the success of the Rosette project depends upon collaboration between local, state and private entities.

For more information about prescribed fires scheduled this fall around Utah check out www.utahfireinfo.gov.

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